

The same Haaretz article, included for the RECORD, cited Prime Minister Netanyahu saying annexation is “still on the table” and that “extending sovereignty will be done only alongside the United States.” A senior Israeli political source is quoted as saying, “Applying sovereignty (to the West Bank) is on the table and we’re committed to it.”

Again, nothing has changed. The annexation of Palestinian lands must be stopped and must never be aided or abetted by any U.S. administration. The Palestinian people should be fully engaged diplomatically by the next U.S. president as partners and constructive peacemakers empowered to negotiate and determine their own political and economic future. Never again should the people of Palestine be ignored, isolated, and boycotted as the Trump administration has done.

Democrats in Congress, led by the courageous and righteous co-sponsors of this bill, must act to send an unambiguous message that annexation is contrary to U.S. interests and would devastate the U.S.-Israel bilateral relationship. The Palestinian people deserve the support of Congress and the American people in this dark moment. If our nation is truly a beacon of democracy, then let us use our power for good to protect the Palestinian people from Mr. Netanyahu’s illegal annexation.

[From Reuters, Aug. 14, 2020]

AFTER NETANYAHU COMMITS TO FUTURE ANNEXATION, TRUMP SAYS IT’S ‘NOW OFF THE TABLE’

(By Noa Landau)

PRO-SETTLER AMBASSADOR FRIEDMAN ARGUES ‘IT’S NOT OFF THE TABLE PERMANENTLY’ AFTER HISTORIC AGREEMENT TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UAE

U.S. President Donald Trump said Thursday night that Israel made a ‘great concession’ by agreeing to suspend West Bank annexation as part of its agreement to normalize relations with the United Arab Emirates, adding that for now ‘it’s off the table.’

Earlier on Thursday, Israel and the UAE reached a historic peace deal on that would lead to a full normalization of diplomatic relations between the two Middle Eastern nations in an agreement that Trump helped broker.

“Israel agreed not to annex parts of the West Bank. It is more than taking it off the table—they agreed not to do it. This is a very smart concession by Israel. It is off the table now,” Trump said during a White House briefing.

This comes in contrast to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s earlier remarks that annexation is “still on the table,” and that it is a pledge the prime minister said he is “committed to.”

In addition, an Israeli senior political source said that “Applying sovereignty [to the West Bank] is on the table and we’re committed to it. The Trump administration requested to temporarily suspend the announcement [of annexation] to first implement the historic peace agreement with the UAE.”

Asked about Netanyahu’s statement that he considers this a ‘temporary suspension,’ and that the option of annexation will still exist in the future, Trump responded that “Right now it’s off the table, I can’t talk about sometime in the future, that’s a big statement, but right now it’s off the table.”

U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman, however, said that “it’s off the table now but it’s not off the table permanently. You can’t have peace and annexation at the same time.”

Speaking in a televised speech earlier on Thursday, Netanyahu said that “Today marks a new era in Israel’s relations with the Arab world” and that the two countries agreed on “a full, formal peace.”

“For years, Israel has been portrayed as an enemy . . . now more countries will join us in this circle of peace,” the prime minister said.

He added that annexation is “still on the table,” and that it is a promise Netanyahu said he is “committed to.”

“Extending sovereignty will be done only alongside the United States,” Netanyahu said. “Without coordination, in the best case, will do nothing, and in the worst case, will harm relations between us. The United States asked that Israel temporarily postpone annexation.”

HONORING THE LIFE OF BEAUMONT POLICE OFFICER SHEENA DAE YARBROUGH-POWELL

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 14, 2020

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Beaumont Police Officer Sheena Dae Yarbrough-Powell, who tragically perished in the line of duty on August 9, 2020.

Sheena Dae Yarbrough-Powell was born on November 22, 1996, in Nederland, Texas to Mark and Shelia Yarbrough. She was the fifth of six girls and remained very close to her family. Highlights of family time included: Sunday lunches, yearly vacations, sleepovers with sisters, competing with family and friends in board games, and, of course, “lots of Blue Bell Ice Cream.” According to family and friends, Sheena never met a stranger, was a social butterfly, and would tire herself trying to make everyone feel included. Sheena graduated from Lumberton High School in 2015.

Sheena’s faith and family were her top priorities. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church where she developed many life-long friends. Her love of Jesus was evident in how she lived her life and treated others. After becoming involved with Calvary’s Renewal Bible study, she met the love of her life, Tyler Powell. From their first date in June of 2018, until her untimely death, Sheena and Tyler were inseparable. The two were married on October 4, 2019, in Beaumont, Texas. In their 10 months of marriage, Sheena was a faithful and loving wife who provided Tyler with a lifetime of great memories.

In 2018, after graduating from Lamar University with a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice, Sheena entered the LIT Police Academy. She was hired by the Beaumont Police Department as a Cadet on August 13, 2018 and was sworn in as a Beaumont Police Officer on December 20, 2018. Her family, friends, and fellow officers lovingly referred to her as “Officer Hopps.” As an officer, Sheena was passionate about preventing sex crimes and helping victims of human trafficking. Becoming a police officer gave Sheena the ability to make a difference in her community and touch the lives of every individual she met.

Officer Yarbrough-Powell is survived by her husband, Tyler; her parents, Mark and Shelia Yarbrough; her sisters, Jennifer Rae, Jessica Mae, Samantha Fae, Sarah Kae, and Madison

Jae; her grandmother, Dorothy Yarbrough; and parents in-law, Rick and Deidre Powell, along with many friends and family whom she loved dearly.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Beaumont Police Officer Sheena Dae Yarbrough-Powell for her faithful service to her community. My thoughts and prayers remain with her family, friends, and her law enforcement family during this difficult time.

WOMAN’S CLUB OF ROCK HILL—CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 14, 2020

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Right to Vote.

The Nineteenth Amendment, enshrined in our constitution, lifted millions of women closer to equality in all aspects of American life.

The right to vote raised women across the nation to an equal footing in the laws and politics that govern them.

In my hometown of Rock Hill, South Carolina, The Woman’s Club of Rock Hill will be celebrating that hard-earned right.

The Woman’s Club of Rock Hill was organized in 1939 and is affiliated with some of the largest and oldest women’s volunteer service organizations in the world.

The Woman’s Club of Rock Hill serves our community with distinction. In the very best tradition of civil society, the Club strives to further the cultural, educational and social interest of its members, to promote action in civic development, social welfare, and to preserve its historic property.

Much work remains until the equality between man and woman is fully realized, but we should never forget the example set by the historic Suffragette movement, enabled by organizations like the Woman’s Club of Rock Hill, that did so much to advance the rights of women.

I am proud to honor the 19th Amendment that elevated more than 26 million women from subjects to citizens, thereby bestowing them the means to empower themselves, their families, and all communities.

The importance of this amendment to our society cannot be overstated. Today, I want to thank the Woman’s Club of Rock Hill for organizing such a special event and take the time to honor all women.

RETIREMENT OF CHARLES HUDSON FROM THE COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 14, 2020

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, it has been a great honor to work closely with Charles Hudson, or Chuck as many know him, for the last twenty-one years.